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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In the Application of:
Theill et al.

Docket No.: A-686A

Serial No.: 09/855,158

Group Art Unit: 1642

Filing Date: May 14, 2001

Examiner: Canella, K.

For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS OF MATTER CONCERNING
APRIL/G70, BCMA, BLYS/AGP-3, AND TACI

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

BOX NON FEE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the requirement to restrict issued in the USPTO Communication mailed September 24, 2002 in connection with the above-referenced patent application, Applicants elect the claims of Group 2, claims 13-17, drawn to a composition of matter comprising SEQ ID NO:7 and 13 and 16, classified in class 530, subclasses 300 and 387.3 with traverse. It is noted that the methods of Group 1, drawn to methods for inhibiting TACI, BCMA or both in a mammal, methods of treating T-cell lymphoproliferative disorders or solid tumors, said methods comprising administering a specific binding partner of APRIL, classified in class 514, subclasses 12 and 21 and class 424, subclass 133.1, encompass methods of use of the compositions of Group 2. As such, any search by the Examiner for the Group 2 compositions would result in identifying references for both Groups. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that combining the two groups would not create an undue burden on the Examiner's search responsibilities. Therefore, Applicants' representative requests that Group 1 be rejoined with elected Group 2.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: BOX NON FEE, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date indicated below.

Date:

October 24, 2002

Signed:

Nanci M. Kertson